

UNIT 12

Past Simple (Regular/Irregular Verbs)



Julie and her daughter **didn't stay** at home last weekend.

They **went** to a friend's house in the mountains.

They **played** in the snow and **had** a lot of fun.

- ◆ We form the past simple of **regular verbs** by adding **-ed** to the main verb. e.g. *He played football yesterday.* We form questions with the auxiliary verb **did**, the subject pronoun and the main verb without **-ed**. e.g. *Did he play football yesterday?* We form negations with **did not/didn't** and the main verb without **-ed**. e.g. *He did not /didn't play football yesterday.*

Affirmative	Negative		Interrogative
	Long form	Short form	
I worked	I did not work	I didn't work	Did I work?
You worked	You did not work	You didn't work	Did you work?
He worked	He did not work	He didn't work	Did he work?
She worked	She did not work	She didn't work	Did she work?
It worked	It did not work	It didn't work	Did it work?
We worked	We did not work	We didn't work	Did we work?
You worked	You did not work	You didn't work	Did you work?
They worked	They did not work	They didn't work	Did they work?

Spelling Rules

- ◆ Verbs ending in **-e** take only **-d**. *like - liked*
- ◆ Verbs ending in a **consonant + y**, drop the **y** and take **-ied**. *study - studied*
But, verbs ending in a **vowel + y**, take **-ed**. *play - played, stay - stayed*
- ◆ Verbs ending in one **stressed vowel** between two consonants double the last consonant and take **-ed**. *stop - stopped*
BUT *visit - visited*
- ◆ Verbs ending in one **l**, double the **l** and take **-ed**. *travel - travelled, quarrel - quarrelled*

1

Write the past simple of the verbs in the correct box.

laugh, tidy, travel, stay, plan, hate, cry, rob, pull, love, study, dance, kiss, drop, change, enjoy, try, live, prefer, cook, hurry

- ed

laughed

- d

- ied

double consonant + ed

Past Simple (Regular/Irregular Verbs)

Pronunciation

The suffix **-ed** is pronounced:

- ◆ / **ɪd** / when the verb ends in a / **t** / or / **d** / sound.
wanted, mended
- ◆ / **t** / when the verb ends in a / **k** /, / **s** /, / **tʃ** /, / **ʃ** /, / **f** / or / **p** / sound.
liked, missed, watched, washed, laughed, stopped
- ◆ / **d** / when the verb ends in any other sound.
closed, studied, loved, robbed

2

Write the past simple of the verbs in the correct box, then read them out.

start, open, wish, look, wait, jump, carry, visit, cook, clean, end, finish, add, live, match, count, laugh, pray, kiss, type, decide, change

/ **ɪd** / *started,*/ **t** // **d** /

- ◆ **Irregular verbs** do not form the past simple by adding **-ed**. e.g. *go-went, see-saw, drink-drank* (See list of irregular verbs at the end of the book). They form questions and negations with **did/did not** (**didn't**) and the root form of the verb. e.g. *He went out - Did he go out? - He didn't go out.*

Affirmative

Negative

Interrogative

Long form

Short form

I went
You went
He went
She went
It went
We went
You went
They went

I did not go
You did not go
He did not go
She did not go
It did not go
We did not go
You did not go
They did not go

I didn't go
You didn't go
He didn't go
She didn't go
It didn't go
We didn't go
You didn't go
They didn't go

Did I go?
Did you go?
Did he go?
Did she go?
Did it go?
Did we go?
Did you go?
Did they go?

3

Write the past simple of the verbs.

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|----------|-------|
| 1 run | ...ran... | 12 take | ..... |
| 2 make | ..... | 13 drive | ..... |
| 3 break | ..... | 14 steal | ..... |
| 4 read | ..... | 15 write | ..... |
| 5 see | ..... | 16 wake | ..... |
| 6 drink | ..... | 17 bring | ..... |
| 7 feed | ..... | 18 leave | ..... |
| 8 eat | ..... | 19 sleep | ..... |
| 9 come | ..... | 20 swim | ..... |
| 10 find | ..... | 21 know | ..... |
| 11 say | ..... | 22 give | ..... |

4

In pairs, ask and answer questions using the prompts below as in the example.

SA: *Mary went somewhere yesterday.*

SB: *Did she go to the theatre?*

- 1 Mary / go / somewhere yesterday (theatre)
- 2 John / meet / somebody yesterday (his boss)
- 3 Father / repair / something yesterday (the car)
- 4 They / visit / somebody yesterday (the Browns)
- 5 Sheila / buy / something yesterday (a dress)
- 6 Tom / talk to / somebody yesterday (Ben)
- 7 They / bring / something yesterday (a cake)

Past Simple (Regular/Irregular Verbs)

Use

We use the past simple:

- for actions which happened at a definite stated time in the past, that is, we know **when** they happened.

They **got married** 15 years ago.
(When **did** they **get married**? 15 years ago.)



- for repeated actions which happened in the past but don't happen any more. In this case we can use adverbs of frequency (e.g. always, often, usually, etc.).

My father **often took** me to the playground when I was little.



- for actions which happened one after the other in the past.



First, they **had** lunch.



Then, they **met** some friends.

Time Expressions

Other time expressions used with past simple apart from those on page 61 include: **last Monday/ Tuesday etc., then, when**

5

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form of the past simple.

- "...**Did you go**... to school yesterday?"
"No, it was Sunday." (you/go)
- He an interesting book last month. (read)
- I looked for my keys but I them. (not/find)
- I wasn't hungry so I anything. (not/eat)
- "..... to Fred yesterday?"
"Yes, I phoned him." (you/speak)
- "..... the bell?" "Yes, but nobody answered." (you/ring)
- "What was that noise?" "I..... anything." (not/hear)
- "What for breakfast?"
"Bacon and eggs." (they/have)
- "How many books ?"
"Only one." (you/buy)
- He his presents on Christmas morning. (open)
- I my clothes on Sunday afternoon. (wash)

6

First, put the verbs in brackets in the past simple, then match the beginnings of the sentences to their endings.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 John ... was ... (be) | a he (go) |
| 2 Peter (need) | b he (call) the police. |
| 3 Anna (not/like) the film, so | c I (take) an aspirin. |
| 4 Sophia and Mary | d she (shout) at them. |
| 5 Somebody (miss) the bus, so | e he (go) to the bank. |
| 6 The children (steal) Mr Jones' car, so | f he ... went ... (go) to bed early. |
| 7 I (break) their mother's watch, so | g they (take) a taxi. |
| 8 Mike (have) toothache, so | h she (leave) the cinema. |

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 ... f ... | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 |

Past Simple (Regular/Irregular Verbs)

Short Answers

In short answers we only use **Yes** or **No**, the subject pronoun and the auxiliary verb **did/didn't**. We do not repeat the whole question.

e.g. Did you go to the cinema? Yes, I did. No, I didn't.

Did you ...? Yes, I/we did. No, I/we didn't.

Did he/she/it ...? Yes, he/she/it did. No, he/she/it didn't.

Did they ...? Yes, they did. No, they didn't.

7

Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple.



Last Sunday the Carter family 1) *went* (go) camping in the countryside. They 2) (find) a nice place by a river. Mr Carter 3) (put up) the tent. After that they 4) (eat) some sandwiches and cakes. Then, Mr Carter 5) (show) Sam and Pamela how to fish. Mrs Carter 6) (pick) some flowers, and their dog Champ 7) (swim) in the river. They all 8) (have) a very good time.

8

Read the text in ex. 7 again and in pairs, ask and answer questions as in the example.

- the Carter family / go shopping?
SA: *Did the Carter family go shopping?*
SB: *No, they didn't. They went camping.*
- they / find / a nice place for their tent?
- Mrs Carter / put up / the tent?
- they / eat / hamburgers and biscuits?
- Mr Carter / show the children / how to fish?
- Mrs Carter / swim in the river?
- they / have a good time?

9

Anna's mother left a list of things for Anna to do. Now she is talking to Anna on the phone. Look at the list and fill in the gaps with the correct verb in the past simple. Give short answers.

go to the supermarket	✓
post the letters	x
go to the baker's	x
feed Blacky	✓
take him for a walk	✓
make the beds	✓
water the plants	x
wash the dishes	✓

- Mother: Hello Anna.
Anna: Hi Mum.
Mother: Did you do the things I asked you to do?
Anna: I did some of them but not all of them.
Mother: So, 1) *...did you go...* to the supermarket?
Anna: 2), but I 3) to the baker's.
Mother: That's all right. 4) the letters?
Anna: 5)
Mother: 6) the beds?
Anna: 7), and I also 8) the dishes.
Mother: Good! What about the dog?
Anna: I 9) Blacky and then I 10) him for a walk.
Mother: 11) the plants?
Anna: 12)
Mother: It doesn't matter. I'm glad you did all those things.
Anna: To tell you the truth Mum, Grandma came and helped me!

10

Put the verbs in brackets into present simple, present continuous or past simple.

- Tina *...is washing...* (wash) her car at the moment.
- Alex (phone) me yesterday evening.
- "..... (you/watch) the football match on TV last night?"
"No, I (not/like) football very much."
- Father (read) his newspaper now. He always (read) it in the evening.
- They often (go) to the beach last year.

Past Simple (Regular/Irregular Verbs)

- 6 We (not/go) to the cinema last night. We (stay) at home and (listen) to music.
- 7 Steve (wake up) at 8.30 yesterday morning. He (have) a shower and then he (eat) a big breakfast.
- 8 Richard usually (leave) the office at 4 o'clock. It is 4.30 now and he (still/work) because he (come) to work late this morning.
- 9 Greg and Catherine (look) for a new flat at present.
- 10 Mr and Mrs Adams usually (visit) their daughter on Sundays.
- 11 Diana (leave) school in 1989. She (study) French at university and she (become) a teacher four years ago.
- 12 The children are in the garden. They (play) with the dog.
- 13 Ben often (meet) his friends on Sunday mornings. Last Sunday they (drive) to the beach and (spend) all day there.
- 14 "Where (be) Peter?" "He (leave) for work a minute ago."
- 15 "When (you/visit) India?" "Ten years ago. I (like) it very much."
- 16 Tom usually (get up) late on Saturday mornings. He (wake up) early last Saturday because he (want) to go to the shops with my sister.

11

First put the verbs into the interrogative form of past simple, then match the questions to the answers.

- 1 What time ...*did you get up*... (you/get up) this morning?
- 2 When (she/move) to London?
- 3 Why (he/go) to Paris?
- 4 Where (he/see) the film?
- 5 Whose car (she/drive) this morning?
- 6 Who (they/invite) to dinner?
- 7 What (you/have) for lunch?

- a Four years ago.
- b At the cinema.
- c Pizza.
- d At 8 o'clock. 1.
- e Jean and Tom.
- f For a holiday.
- g Robert's.

12

Put the verbs in brackets into the present simple, present continuous or past simple.



- Donna: Hello Mark! It's Donna. How are you?
 Mark: I'm fine. I 1) ...*woke up*... (wake up) half an hour ago and I 2) (have) breakfast at the moment.
 Donna: But, it's lunchtime!
 Mark: Well, Ann and I 3) (go) to Philip's party last night and we 4) (come) home very late.
 Donna: 5) (you/enjoy) the party?
 Mark: I 6) (have) a very good time but Ann 7) (not/like) it.
 Donna: Oh, why?
 Mark: They only 8) (play) rock music and Ann 9) (hate) rock. She 10) (not/dance) at all.
 Donna: 11) (they/serve) any food?
 Mark: Yes, there 12) (be) a lot of things. What 13) (you/do) last night?
 Donna: Well, I ...

13

Underline the correct item.

- 1 Karen washes/is washing her hair every day.
- 2 Mark worked/is working very hard these days.
- 3 I talked/am talking to Carol on the phone a few days ago.
- 4 John stays/is staying with his cousin at present.
- 5 We sometimes eat/are eating bacon and eggs for breakfast.
- 6 Jane breaks/broke her arm last Monday.
- 7 Do you call/Did you call Mike yesterday?
- 8 I get up/got up at 9 o'clock on Sundays.
- 9 They go/went to the Bahamas last summer.
- 10 She is buying/bought a computer three days ago.

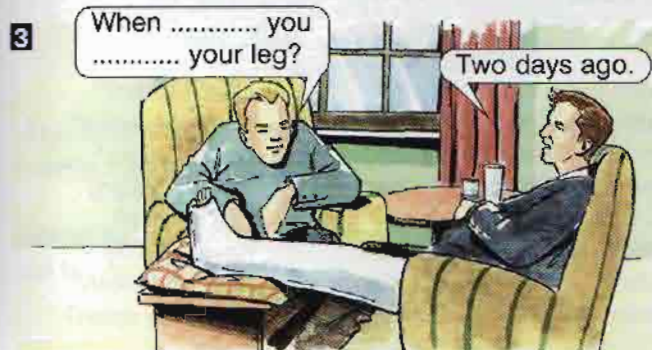
Past Simple (Regular/Irregular Verbs)

14 Choose the correct answer.

- Mr Smith is a lawyer. He ...A... a lot of hours.
A works B is working C worked
- Sid me with my homework last night.
A helps B is helping C helped
- The robber over the wall and ran away.
A is jumping B jumps C jumped
- "What is Dad doing?" "He the bathroom."
A is painting B painted C paints
- When Father came, we to the theatre.
A go B went C are going

15 Fill in the gaps with one of the verbs from the list in the correct form of the past simple.

enjoy, break, have



ORAL Activity

Look at the table below. What did you do last summer? In pairs, ask and answer questions as in the example:

e.g. SA: Did you travel abroad? SB: Yes, I did.
SA: Did you stay at a hotel? SB: No, I didn't.



travel abroad? ✓
stay at a hotel? x
swim every day?
go to a bar every night?
go fishing?
meet any new people?
take any photos?
sunbathe in the mornings?
have an accident?
read any books?
collect any shells?
watch the sun set?

WRITING Activity

Imagine that you went abroad last year and write about your holiday. Begin like this:

Last summer I travelled abroad. I went to ..

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

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